

1967

1967. Summer

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SYNOD APPROVES SINGLE BOARD

Effective Date Is Sept. 15, 1967

At the General Synod meeting held at Bristol, Tennessee recently the General Synod of the Reformed Church approved the proposal of its Executive Committee to have a 27-man Board operate both theological seminaries of the church. There was a modification made by the committee just prior to the presentation of the proposal to the Synod as a result of two statements arising out of the spring meetings of the Boards of Trustees of the institutions involved. The modification presented by the committee suggested that merger of the two boards was "for the purpose of establishing a unified program of theological education." Earlier, the proposal suggested that the merger was "for the purpose of establishing a single seminary."

The new Board will have twenty-seven members and the president of each institution will sit with it as an ex officio member when the Board is meeting to deal with the interests of his particular institution. Initially, the membership of the Board is comprised of twelve nominees by the particular synods of the church, six from each seminary, plus three nominated by the General Synod. After these initial elections have been phased out, the particular synods will elect twenty-four of the Board members while the General Synod will continue to elect three.

The date of transfer of responsibilities from the two Boards to the single Board has been set for September 15, 1967. In addition to operating the two seminaries, the Board will concern itself with some of the items relative to problem areas in theological education today. It is hoped that out of the activities of this Board will come a full-orbed program of theological education able to respond to the sizeable needs of the ministry in its preparation for the world today.

Although both Boards of Trustees expressed some degrees of concern with reference to the single Board concept, the action of the Boards was not finally effective since the seminaries are the direct children of General Synod and its members are elected by the Synod itself.

In other matters affecting the seminary, the General Synod approved by wide margins the election of Drs. Cook and Brownson to the office of Professor of Theology. No installation date has yet been determined but the stage is now set for the installation of both these men to the office of professor of theology.

PIET LEAVES FOR INDIA; WILTERDINK SERVES AS REPLACEMENT

Beginning this summer, Dr. John Piet starts his sabbatical leave. He and Mrs. Piet will be traveling to India where he will be working with the Christian Institute for the study of religion in society. While he is gone, the Reverend Garret Wilterdink, pastor of the Reformed Church, Midland, Michigan, will be serving as a sabbatical replacement for Dr. Piet.

Dr. Piet's research will be in the area of Hinduism, the questions it is raising, and the possible answers the church may have for these questions. He wrote his Ph.D. thesis in this area and studied this movement until the year 1947. Since that time, India has become politically independent, which means new forces have been brought to bear upon the Hindu religion. The thought Dr. Piet has in mind is to bring his research up to date and to relate the results of this significant study to the life and witness of the church.

Dr. and Mrs. Piet will probably be leaving some time during the month of August. Earlier plans to spend a couple of weeks in Jerusalem with their son John, who is working there with Miss

Kathleen Kenyon, have been set aside because of the breaking out of hostilities in the Middle East.

The Rev. Garret Wilterdink is a graduate of Western Seminary and is presently finishing his doctoral dissertation for the Ph.D.

degree at the University of Chicago Divinity School. He has served—and presently serves—on important boards and committees of the church. Mr. Wilterdink is planning to leave his parish for a year in order to fulfill this assignment. He will be teaching exclusively in the area of biblical materials. The material on missions will be taught by someone else secured through cooperation with the Board of World Missions.



Dr. John Piet



Rev. Garret Wilterdink

Faculty To Hold Conference At Bloomfield Hills

The third faculty retreat in as many years is being held this year, August 28th to September 1st, under the direction of Dr. Reuel Howe of the Institute for Advanced Pastoral Studies at Bloomfield, Michigan.

Similar conferences were held in the past two years. The first was held at Bloomfield Hills and was one of the factors involved in the new curriculum presently in use at the seminary. Last year, the faculty motored to the University of Michigan and spent a week under some of the leading educators in America discussing educational method and teaching concerns.

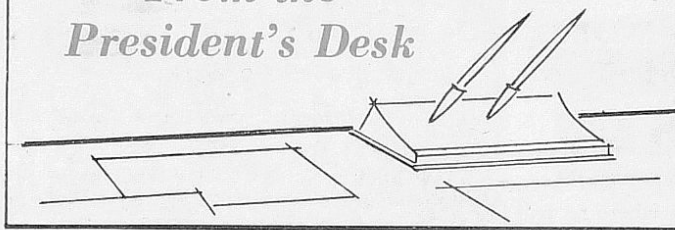
The retreat this year is scheduled to deal with two major areas of concern on theological campuses. The first has to do with the whole problem of church and world. Encounter experiences are being set up with representative figures in government, the arts, science, and industry. Dialogue situations will be held followed by evaluation seminars in terms of what was learned and what needs to be recognized and the resulting implications for theological education. Some of the leading figures in various fields will be gathered with the faculty in one to one dialogue situations.

In addition, a significant block of time is being set aside this year for a pastoral care workshop under the direction of Dr. William Kooistra, consulting psychologist of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Dr. Kooistra for the last several years has been the consulting psychologist for the seminary and has worked with a number of students who were referred to him for counselling or group therapy. The purpose of this pastoral care workshop will be to further equip the faculty members to use their own resources for the exercising of pastoral care on the campus.

The faculty retreat has become the special project of the members of the Midland Reformed Church of Midland, Michigan. Together with the Dow matching funds, members of this Reformed Church have been able to underwrite all of the costs of the retreats held to date. Both faculty members and students have spoken appreciatively of the experiences provided through this means in making more effective the educational task to which we are dedicated.

One of the interesting features about the fact that Mr. Wilterdink should be the replacement for Dr. Piet is that both are sons of the Eighth Reformed Church of Grand Rapids.

From the President's Desk



The Single Board

The action of General Synod with reference to the merged Board was surprisingly decisive. Although the original proposal of the General Synod's Executive Committee was modified slightly, the altered proposal met with only minor opposition, centering on the certainty of the future.

No one can deny the uncertainties that are before us. For a long time, both seminaries were largely under regional control even though they were technically and theoretically under the direct control of General Synod. But by a method of representation that heavily favored membership in the area of the given school, there was in effect regional control for both of the schools. Now all of that is finished, and one wonders as to what the future will bring. No one can speak with certainty at this point as to what the prospects will be. Neither ought we to assume that all of the uncertainties are to be found in the area of the merged Board. Actually, there are a good number of uncertainties involved in a program in which there is no close coordination of the entire program of theological education of the church. Although one of our theological seminaries currently seems to be in some difficulty of maintaining its desired program, there is no guarantee that this might not be true for both schools within the next decade. There are many other factors that also must be set in the category of uncertainties, although at the present they may not be alarming to the uninformed layman.

A Full-Orbed Program

I am encouraged by the proposal of the General Synod to create a single Board of Trustees. Some of the "competition" at the B.D. level of which we have been guilty ought now to be ended. In its place, one would hope that a full-orbed program of theological education could be instituted. Not only would we be concerned in such a program with the three years of the Bachelor of Divinity training, but the total years of a man's professional life as a minister would also be involved. Thus, a massive program of continuing education could be instituted. Previously, we assumed that three years of theological education ought to prepare a man for a lifetime of ministry. Presently, we

feel that three years of education ought to prepare him for at least three years of ministry. After that, he needs additional guidance and help to draw out the resources that are his or that need to be his for the carrying on of a competent ministry. Also, there is a strong hope that such a combined and unified program of theological education could work in an effective way in the entire program of enlistment and vocational choice.

All That Matters

Thus, with a combined and unified program of theological education under one Board of capable ministers and laymen, there is a tremendous possibility of a far more effective program of ministerial training than either of the two seminaries separately governed would be able to give. There are many dangers and uncertainties in a program like this. These are both church-wide and personal. Some of the finest, most dedicated of the church's servants will be exposed to some degree of change within the next several years. But one can only hope that all of this is for the good of the kingdom and the advancement of the cause of Jesus Christ. And if such could be accomplished—after all is said and done—this is all that really counts. Convinced that this is our only purpose and reason for being, all of us need to set aside both our fears and personal ambitions, open our mind to the future, remember with respect and gratitude our past, and be faithful servants in order that the cause of Christ may be served.

Sincerely,

Western's Faculty Serve In Varied Capacities

Dr. William C. Brownson, Jr., Professor of Preaching, spent a week in Washington, D.C. in a conference at the College of Preachers in Washington Cathedral, providing refresher courses in preaching for Episcopalian parish priests. Dr. Brownson will lead and guide a preaching clinic on Western's Campus as part of the August PAR Institute to be held in Holland.

Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, Professor of Historical Theology, led a conference for the American Society for Church Architecture in Cherry Hill, New Jersey in April, speaking on "Architecture and Worship." He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Society and assigned to the Editorial Board of the Society's "Journal." He also gave the dedicatory address for the Lynnwood Reformed Church in Schenectady, New York at its dedication in April. This building is a superb example of a theologically and liturgically correct Reformed Church. The pastor is the Rev. Gerard J. Van Heest, graduate of Western's class of 1952. He also addressed the Reformed Church Ministerial Association in Albany, New York in April on the subject, "Theological Architecture for Reformed Churches."

Professor Hugh A. Koops of the Department of Christian Education, gave the opening keynote address to the Christian Association for Psychological Studies meeting in their fourteenth annual convention at Oak Brook, Illinois on April 12 and 13. His subject was, "The New Morality," which introduced the theme of the convention, "Contemporary Morality and Behavioral Deviations." General chairman of this year's convention was Dr. William L. Hiemstra of Pine Rest Christian Hospital. Dr. Hiemstra has given an elective course at Western Seminary during each fall quarter in recent years.

Dr. John H. Piet, Professor of English Bible and Mission, will teach the course on "The Bible and the Faiths of Men" at the Midwest Conference of Christian World Missions meeting in Evanston, Illinois August 7-11, 1967. Dr. Piet will also contribute an article of two units on "Correspondence Courses" in the concise dictionary of the Christian World Mission which is now in preparation under the direction of World Christian Books.

Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, Western's Professor of Church History, led a seminar for the American Society for Church Architecture in Chicago on May 18. Intended to stimulate architectural and liturgical integrity in church building, the seminar is part of the program of the American Society. Attending from the Holland area were architects Howard Kammeraad, Roger Stroop, and Paul Vander Leek. Dr. Bruggink also announced the publication of a guide to historical manuscripts housed in the archives of the institutions forming the Dutch-American Historical Commission. Hope College, Calvin Seminary, Western Seminary, and the Netherlands Museum participate in this program. Dr. Bruggink is president of the Commission. Persons are urged to send to Western Seminary items of historical interest relating to the Dutch in western Michigan, so our library may become the depository of a collection of letters, diaries, photographs, and other historical materials of significant objects in this area of history.



CLASS OF 1937 HOLDS 30th REUNION ON COMMENCEMENT DAY.

Left to right: Seated—C. H. Walvoord, H. Ringenoldus, G. A. Aalberts, R. J. Redeker. Standing—P. J. Muyskens, W. J. Vander Kooi, J. Nieuwsma, H. Van Raalte, C. Meengs. Unable to attend: Dr. James Z. Nettinga, Rev. Gary DeWitt, David Louwenaar and Harold Schut. Rev. John Den Ouden passed away in 1962.

ALUMNI SET RECORD IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The new Heritage Alcove in the Commons room of the Western Theological Seminary is closer to realization because of the generous giving of many alumni this year. At the close of the first phase of this project, May 31, 1967, 161 alumni had contributed \$1,625.00. The average gift per alumnus has exceeded previous years because many alumni followed the suggested pattern of contributing one dollar for each year since graduation. The generosity of the alumni who contributed this year has pushed the fund drive for the Heritage Alcove more than one-half way towards its goal of \$2,825.

At the alumni gathering in the Hope Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, on May 24, the Western Seminary Alumni Association reaffirmed its intent to complete the goal of the Heritage Alcove. Work is now in process to obtain the pictures of all former professors and to prepare portraits from them. The executive committee of the alumni association is working closely with Mr. Henry Kleinheksel, business manager of the seminary, in the management of the whole project.

Since the Seminary is now 100 years old, some special attention was given to alumni affairs at the May gathering. With the class of 1967 leaving the Seminary halls upon their graduation May 24, the Western Theological Seminary has now graduated 1118 men and women. Those people who are considered to be graduates include recipients of professorial certificates, diplomas, the Bachelor of Divinity Degree, the Master of

Theology degree, and the Master of Christian Education degree.

The Rev. Matthias Duven, of the class of 1907, was recognized as the oldest alumnus present at the luncheon meeting of the alumni association this year. It was also noted that the oldest graduates of the seminary are: Fred Reeverts, 1902, Abraham De Young and Henry Hueneman, 1903, and Jacob G. Brouwer and Matthias J. Duven, 1907. These men are members of the sixty-year circle of alumni. Thirty-two alumni are members of the fifty-year circle, having graduated in the years, 1908-1917.

In connection with the centennial graduation exercises of the seminary, the class of 1937 held its thirtieth anniversary reunion dinner at the Warm Friend Hotel. The members of the class who attended were the Rev. Henry Van Raalte, the Rev. John Nieuwsma, the Rev. Peter Muyskens, the Rev. Gradus A. Aalberts, Dr. Russell J. Redeker, the Rev. Christian H. Walvoord, the Rev. Chester Meengs, the Rev. Harold C. Ringenoldus, and the Rev. Willis Vander Kooi, who convened the class. Members who could not be present were: the Rev. Gary De Witt, the Rev. David Louwenaar, Dr. James Z. Nettinga, and the Rev. Harold J. Schut. One member of the class is deceased, the Rev. John E. Den Ouden.

New officers of the Western Seminary Alumni Association were elected. The retiring president, the Rev. Albert Mansen, of Charlevoix, Michigan, passed on the gavel to the new president, the Rev. Ralph Menning, of Grandville, Michigan. The Rev. Neal Mol, of Overisel, Michigan, became the new vice-president, and Elton J. Bruins, of Holland, Michigan, the secretary-treas-

urer. The Rev. John Klaaren continues to serve in his three-year term as executive secretary. Upon recommendation of the executive committee, the term of office was changed from one year to two years in order to achieve a greater continuity in the work and life of the alumni association.

The new executive committee will continue to press for the completion of the Heritage Alcove project. Because the number of living alumni now totals 866 members, it should be a relatively easy task to conclude the current project if there is hearty support of the association's project in 1968. The executive committee through its secretary is attempting to complete its tasks of finding the whereabouts of all the alumni. The following list of graduates do not have their address on record in the seminary office: Nicholas H. Bruinix, '29, Donald Cozadd, '58, Gerhard Paul Diez, '54, Robert Garrett, '59, John A. Grull, '46, William Ietswaart, '48, Richard A. Madsen, '53, Allen F. Marcle, '14, Carl Marich, '45, Victor Maxam, '34, Antonio Moncada, '51, Jacob H. Peelen, '27, Wilson Duke Richardson, '51, John Rikkers, '28, John F. Schortinghuis, '29, Garth Smith, '51, Sidney Van Gelder, '58, John P. Kruys Voorberge, '12, and Henry D. Voss, '28. All communications to the alumni association may be addressed to: The Alumni Secretary, Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan.

CENTRAL COLLEGE HONORS W.T.S. ALUMNI

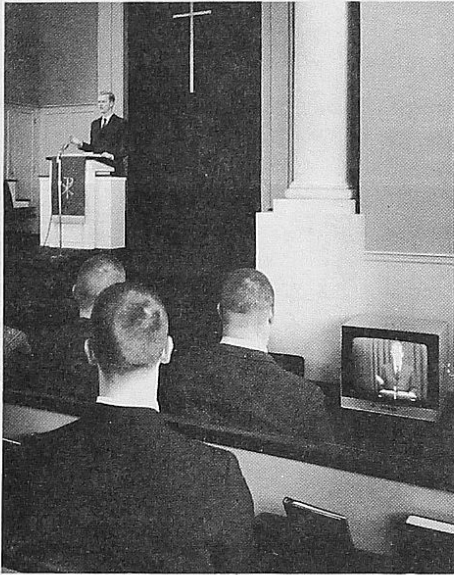
At special ceremonies held in the Third Reformed Church of Pella, Iowa on May 28, Central College conferred honorary degrees upon two retired missionaries of the Reformed Church who are Western graduates.

Granted the Doctor of Divinity degree was the Rev. C. A. De Bruin of Western's class of 1926. A veteran of forty years' service in the Arcot Mission in India, Mr. De Bruin served in village schools, taught Bible and English at Vorhees College, where he also served as bursar and vice-principal, also as manager of both the college and high school dormitories. He taught theology at the Arcot College and Seminary. He is married to the former Frances Lepeltak, also a Central College graduate. Their one child, Joyce Evelyn, with her husband, James W. Dunham, is now serving as a missionary in the Arabian Gulf at Bahrain.

Also given a Doctor of Divinity degree was the Rev. George Gosselink, a graduate in Western's class of 1928. He served as a field secretary of the Arabian Mission from 1938 until his retirement in 1966, and as principal of the Basrah, Iraq Boys' School from 1941 until 1966. His wife is the former Christina Scholten.

Videotape Recorder Serves Practical Department

During the second quarter of the academic year, a Videotape Recorder system was installed and made available to the Department of Preaching under the direction of Dr. Brownson. This equipment is electronically tied in with a 23" viewing screen, a microphone, an amplifying system and a TV camera so that the total system may be used for the audio and visual recording of student sermons. The integrated system enables the Professor of Preaching to record



Paul Swets, senior class president, delivers his class sermon, which is being reproduced on the videotape equipment recently installed at Western Seminary. Audio-visual equipment greatly enhances the effectiveness of instruction and training in preaching at the seminary.

class sermons of students, using the instant replay feature to reproduce portions of the sermon so that instructive criticism can be given for correction and encouragement to the participating student.

The initial \$1,000 gift from the Ottawa Church has been reported in the previous issues of *The Theolog*. Later, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Fris of Holland made a gift as a memorial to Dr. William Couloozee, distinguished member of Western's faculty, who served as Professor of Historical Theology and Church History from 1939 to 1952, and then as Professor of Pastoral Theology and Christian Education from 1952 to 1955. His devotional and biographical books are a tribute to his noble Christian personality. His life of dedicated service to the kingdom through the Reformed Church and Western Seminary was an inspiration to many. His death Sept. 5, 1955 was mourned by many.

Other significant gifts were made by Mr. and Mrs. James Mooi, Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Heerema, Mrs. Hattie Veldhuizen, Miss Cornelia De Kleine (in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Dick A. De Kleine of Jamestown, Michigan), and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Zeinstra.

A Whirlpool Corporation gift matching a former gift from Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Wolfert was also designated for this equipment.

This audio-visual equipment will be used in connection with preaching clinics conducted by Dr. Brownson as a part of the program for the Par Institute scheduled on Western's campus on August 2-11, 1967.

Joan Bolman, Marian Faber Join Office Staff

Recent openings in the office and clerical staff of the Seminary have occurred, making it necessary to appoint replacements.

After five years of service, Mrs. Norma Sprick, receptionist and secretary, has resigned to accept a position as receptionist and secretary for Dr. Robert C. Mahaney, medical doctor with offices in Holland, Mich.

Appointed to take her position is Miss Joan Bolman, a member of the First Reformed Church of Zeeland, Michigan. Miss Bolman had served as a private secretary in a chemical corporation in Zeeland, after which she was secretary for Dr. William Vander Lugt at Hope College and most recently a secretary for Dr. William Mathis, Academic Dean of the College. Miss Bolman will assume her new position with the Seminary on June 19.

In addition, joining the office staff as secretary is Mrs. Marian Faber who comes to her new post after serving ten years as a secretary to middle management personnel of the Dunn Manufacturing Company, a Holland corporation. Mrs. Faber began her new work with the Seminary on June 1.

Many students of recent years will remember with gratitude and appreciation the many expressions of concern and interest by Mrs. Sprick in their behalf. The Seminary wishes her well in her new post of responsibility.

During temporary surges of activity in the office, Mrs. Eleanor Hoffman, a member of the Trinity Reformed Church of Holland, and Mrs. Doris Worthy, a member of the Maplewood Reformed Church of Holland, have helped with the correspondence and related work of the office.

BRUINS NAMED SEMINARY ARCHIVIST

Dr. Elton J. Bruins, Assistant Professor of Bible at Hope College, has been named the Seminary Archivist. For some time it has been felt that the historical materials in the seminary library and related sources should be properly catalogued and made into a system so that they may be readily available for research purposes. For that reason, Dr. Bruins was invited to work part time at this particular pursuit. He will work principally in the summer months in order to bring together and properly catalog the various items

of interest that the seminary has by way of archival items.

GORDON COSBY TO BE AT FALL RETREAT

Plans have been completed for the fall retreat of the seminary to be held at Castle Park, Sept. 14 and 15. Special guest at the retreat will be the Rev. Gordon Cosby of the Church of our Savior, Washington, D.C. A man with international reputation as a leader in spiritual renewal and the significance of Christian discipline, the Rev. Gordon Cosby will lead three different discussion sessions at the retreat which begins at 1:00 o'clock on Thursday afternoon. Pastor of the Church of our Savior in Washington, D.C., Mr. Cosby has become known as the pastor of a tightly disciplined church which, although small in numbers, has won the attention of the larger world. Probably the most well-known account of the activities and interests of the church is to be found in Elizabeth O'Connor's book, "Call to Commitment."

Planned in close cooperation with the student council, Mr. Leonard Reynolds, chairman, the retreat promises to be another highlight experience in the life of the seminary. Last year the first such retreat was held with Gert Behanna as the special guest. Student acclaim of the event suggested a similar type of retreat for this year.

The costs of the retreat, to a great extent, are underwritten by the Reformed Laymen's Publicity League of Grand Rapids. This group of active Christian laymen of the Reformed churches in the area has taken an interest in developing some new programs at the seminary involving the spiritual maturation of both students and ministers. For that reason, they have underwritten the greater part of the cost of retreats such as this while at the same time providing several hundred dollars in scholarships for ministers attending the PAR institutes held in the summer.

Enrollment Higher For Fall

The enrollment figures at this point are higher for the coming fall. Twenty-two men were graduated this spring. Presently, there are thirty-seven students enrolled for the fall quarter.

Presently, about fifteen of these are preparing to take the Summer Greek course under the direction of Dr. James I. Cook. All of them have either passed the Greek entrance examination or are preparing their summer schedule to take the course at that time.

Commenting on the enrollment for the fall, President Ridder said, "In a time of generally decreasing enrollment, we are happy to see an increased class for next fall. It may well be that the Wolfert Conference on Church Vocation is one of the factors involved."

Registrations Continue For PAR Institutes

Registrations continue to be received for the two PAR Institutes to be held this summer. One is to be held at Orange City, Iowa, July 12 through 21 and the other at Western August 2 through August 11.

Under the general direction of the Rev. Robert A. Nykamp, Director of Field Education, the institute at Northwestern College will be under the Chairmanship of Dr. Elton Eenigenburg, while the one to be held at Western is to be chaired by Dr. Lester Kuyper. The remaining members of the staff are Dr. Richard C. Oudersluys and the Rev. Hugh Koops for the Northwestern Institute while Dr. Eugene Osterhaven and Dr. Wm. C. Brownson will be participating in the PAR institute held at Western.

The subject matter to be dealt with in each of these institutes is of keen interest to ministers. Dr. Oudersluys will be teaching a course entitled "Interpreting the New Testament Today." The seminar will deal with the relation of the Word of God and language. Selected passages of the New Testament will be studied with attention to how the traditional Word manages to make itself understood in the real circumstances of our lives. Dr. Eenigenburg will be teaching a course entitled "Ethics Laboratory." Ethical problems facing the minister today will be the prime source materials. Situation ethics plus the inadequate training most of us have had in the area of ethics makes this a "must" for any pastor seeking to steer a course between the shibboleths of a Dutch culture no longer extant and a wide open love-is-the-only-law attitude prevailing in much of American church life.

The Rev. Hugh Koops will teach a course entitled "Receptivity for Religion." The concern of the course is the correlation of programs of Christian education with the ability of the growing child and maturing youth. A teaching laboratory will be utilized to gain insight into the development of religious thought from childhood to adolescence.

In the Western Seminar, Dr. Lester Kuyper will teach "How to Use the Old Testament." Many ministers harbor the awareness that they are using only "half a Bible" in the major part of their ministry. This seminar will endeavor to develop skills in making the Old Testament a vital part of the Christian message today. Exegetical studies on themes and passages of the Old Testament will be used in the construction of sermons for the preaching seminar under Dr. Brownson's direction.

Dr. Eugene Osterhaven will be teaching a course entitled "The Present State of Christian Theology." It will be a discussion of recent theological development in a post-Barthian, post-Bultmannian, post-Vatican II theological world in a state of flux.

Dr. Brownson will be conducting a "Preaching Seminar." The new video recorder plus group discussion will help answer the question as to what's happened to the registrant's preaching since he left seminary. In an atmosphere of acceptance and freedom, participants will be helped to develop new skills in communicating the Gospel.

Registrations are still open for both institutes. Those interested and seeking more materials are invited to write the seminary. Cost of the ten-day institute for the minister is \$50.00.

BOARD APPROVES COOK, BROWNSON; Votes "No" On Proposed Merger

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees was held May 23 and 24 at the seminary. It was the Centennial Meeting of the Board and fitting resolutions were drawn up to note that fact.

The officers elected were Dr. Raymond E. Beckering as Chairman, the Rev. Harry Buis as Vice-Chairman, the Rev. Henry Mouw as Secretary, and the Rev. Henry Boekhoven as Temporary Secretary. Mr. John Damon will serve as Treasurer. (The Board actually elected another candidate who found it impossible to fill the office this coming year. Subsequently, the Executive Committee of the Board elected Damon as Treasurer.)

The members of the Executive Committee elected were the Rev. Raymond E. Beckering, the Rev. Henry Mouw, the Rev. Harold Korver, Mr. Henry Strabbing, the Rev. Harry Buis, and the Treasurer and the President of the seminary who both serve as ex officio members.

One of the highlights of the day was the nomination to General Synod for permanent office for both Dr. James I. Cook and Dr. William C. Brownson, Jr. Dr. Cook was nominated to fill the chair of Biblical Languages and Literature, while Dr. Brownson was named Professor of Preaching. Both names have been presented to General Synod for confirmation at the June meeting. These men will both be installed in the fall of the year.

The Board voted to "disapprove the proposal for the union of the two seminaries in its present formulation." Instead, it proposed a selection of ten men from each of

the two seminaries to form a joint committee to study the problem of theological education and "to bring concrete proposals to both boards in the matters of curriculum, endowment, faculty appointments, site, the desire of the churches themselves, the constituency of the new Board, et cetera."



Dr. William Brownson, Jr.

Both actions were sent to General Synod for their proper notice.

One of the innovations this year in place of the customary practice of student interviews, which practice was eliminated last year by Board action, was a panel presented by both faculty and students on the new curriculum. The panel was under the direction of Dr. Eenigenburg, Academic Dean, and dealt with some of the strengths and weaknesses of the new curriculum.

In addition, several of the faculty members spoke to the President's report in terms of their activities and concerns as faculty members.

The Board also approved the proposal voted previously by the Executive Committee to secure a competent person to serve as both Director of Counseling and Professor of Pastoral Care. Although the post has now been created, as of this date there is no occupant for it. It is expected that existing personnel resources both within the seminary community and outside of it will be employed for the coming year in the event no permanent occupant for the post can be found by the beginning of school.

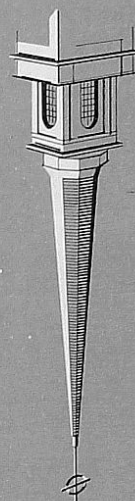
WESTERN PLANS BIBLE LAND SEMINARS

Although at the time of this writing the first field study seminar is about to begin, plans have already been laid for a second experience. This time the Biblical field is planning a seminar to the lands of the Bible. It is hoped that such a seminar may be held in the summer of 1968.

Under the direction of Dr. James Cook and Dr. Lester J. Kuyper, the formative decisions are being made and early plans are being set. Tensions in the Mid East may force cancellation or change of plans but presently the group is hopeful of a 21-day experience under carefully designed academic guidance.



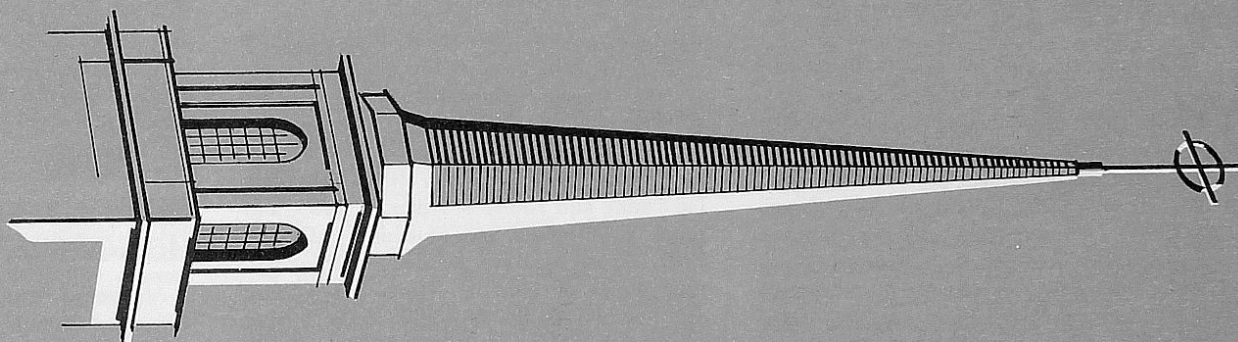
Dr. James I. Cook



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TWELVE CHURCHES GIVE TOP DOLLAR AMOUNT

According to seminary records, the following twelve churches made the largest dollar contributions to the seminary's operating fund for Calendar 1966.

Beechwood Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan.....	\$3,442.08
First Reformed Church, Zeeland, Michigan.....	2,700.00
First Reformed Church, South Holland, Illinois.....	2,265.60
First Reformed Church of Roseland, Chicago, Illinois.....	2,186.13
First Reformed Church, Pella, Iowa.....	2,000.00
Trinity Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan.....	1,950.00
Ebenezer Reformed Church, Morrison, Illinois.....	1,800.00
Maplewood Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan.....	1,718.75
First Reformed Church, Sioux Center, Iowa.....	1,635.00
First Reformed Church, Grandville, Michigan.....	1,550.00
North Holland Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan.....	1,500.00
Unity Reformed Church, Muskegon, Michigan.....	1,500.00

In some instances, the churches on the Honor Roll have made additional contributions to the Student Assistance Fund of the seminary. Acting as an agent, the seminary has distributed these gifts to students needing financial aid, in this way helping them to meet living expenses while they are enrolled at Western.

Western Seminary pays tribute to the loyalty and generosity of all the churches who made contributions for our operations during the last year. As Western continues to pioneer in new methods for seminary preparation, it is heartening to know that the churches will underwrite such efforts with financial and prayer support.